AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

U.S. Application No.: 10/810,830

Atty Docket: Q8( 745

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the

application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A magnetic recording medium comprising a magnetic layer

comprising a ferromagnetic powder and a binder, wherein

said binder eomprises-consists of polyurethanc resin having a glass transition temperature

ranging from 100 to 200 °C,

said magnetic layer has a thickness equal to or less than 0.15 µm,

said ferromagnetic powder has a mean major axis length or a mean plate diameter e jual

to or less than 60 nm, and

said magnetic layer has a coercivity (Hc) ranging from 159 to 239 kA/m in a longitudinal

direction or an in-plane direction.

2. (currently amended): A magnetic recording medium comprising a nonmagnetic layer

comprising a nonmagnetic powder and a binder and a magnetic layer comprising a ferromagnetic

powder and a binder in this order on a nonmagnetic support, wherein

at least the binder comprised in said magnetic layer comprises consists of polyuret lane

resin having a glass transition temperature ranging from 100 to 200 °C,

said magnetic layer has a thickness equal to or less than 0.15 µm,

said forromagnetic powder has a mean major axis length or a mean plate diameter e qual

to or less than 60 nm, and

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said magnetic layer has a coercivity (Hc) ranging from 159 to 239 kA/m in a longitui inal direction or an in-plane direction.

3. (original): The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said polyurcthanc resin is obtained by using a diol compound represented by the following general formula:

(where Z is a ring structure selected from the group consisting of a cyclohexane ring, a ben tene ring, and a naphthalene ring, R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are respectively an alkylene group having 1 to 18 ca bon atoms, and R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> are respectively an alkyl group having 2 to 18 carbon atoms.)

- 4. (original): The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said polyurethane resin has a urethane group concentration ranging from 2.5 to 6.0 mmol/g.
- 5. (original): The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said polyurethane resin has a weight average molecular weight (Mw) ranging from 30,000 to 200,000.
- 6. (original): The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the polyurethane resin comprises at least one polar group selected from the group consisting of SO<sub>3</sub>M, -OSO<sub>3</sub>M, -PO<sub>3</sub>M<sub>2</sub>, and -COOM (wherein M is selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, alkali metal and ammonium) in an amount of  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  to  $2 \times 10^{-4}$  eq/g.

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7. (original): The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said polyurethane resin has a glass transition temperature ranging from 120 to 170 °C.

8. (original): The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said magnetic layer has a thickness ranging from 20 to 100 nm.

9. (currently amended): The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said magnetic layer has a coercivity ranging from 159 to 207 kA/m in a- the longitu linal direction or in-plane direction.

10. (original): The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said ferromagnetic powder has a mean major axis length or a mean plate diameter ranging from :0 to 50 nm.